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CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East GermanyREPORT TOPIC Military Information from Halle25X1 EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X125X1 DATE OF CONTENT 25X1 DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 3 December 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 20 and 27 October 1953, the Luftnachrichten Kaserne in Halle was occupied by about 3,000 troops, including about 1,500 troops with tank insignia, 300 troops with artillery insignia, 150 troops with signal insignia and 150 troops with motor transport insignia. About 30 percent of the windows of the quarters were lighted after nightfall. About 50 T-34 tanks, at least 20 SU-100 guns, several BA-64 armored scout cars, at least 12 x 76-mm field guns and 6 light twin-barreled AA guns mounted on trucks were seen in the installation area.

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the troops

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2. Between 22 and 23 October, the Luftnachrichten Kaserne was occupied by about 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Furniture and equipment was moved within the installation. Firing with live ammunition was held at the firing ranges during daytime.

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3. Troops and materiel detrained at the Halle freight station between 18 and 20 October included:

18 October. At 8 p.m., 5 disassembled three-sectional pontoons, 7 small pontoons, 3 T-34/85 tanks and motor vehicles [redacted]

At 10 p.m., about 40 to 45 motor vehicles each towing a mortar [redacted] and about 120 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

At midnight, T-34/85 tanks [redacted] about 35 trucks, occupied by troops [redacted] and 1 salvage tank.

19 October. T-34/85 tanks [redacted] SU-100 guns [redacted] and about 25 motor vehicles occupied by troops [redacted]

T-34/85 tanks [redacted] armored scout car [redacted] about 40 guns, troops with equipment and motor vehicles [redacted]

JS-2 tanks [redacted] SU-100 guns [redacted] 3 salvage tanks, 2 armored scout cars and several trucks [redacted]

T-34/85 tanks [redacted] 1 armored scout car and trucks [redacted]

20 October. Fifteen to 20 [redacted] tanks, 8 armored scout cars, 30 to 40 sidecar motorcycles and trucks [redacted]

Comment. [redacted] supplements previous information on the unloading of units of the 21st Gds Mecz Div returning from the maneuvers in Thuringia. According to this and previous reports, [redacted] a total of 130 to 140 medium tanks [redacted] of the abovementioned division. [redacted] Although the strength figures given [redacted] paragraphs 1 and 2 are very low, it is believed that the elements of the division were at the post in late October.

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